

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions of claims in the application. Claim 1 has been amended herein.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) An electronic multiple supplier system for transacting business comprising:

a central connection component that provides a virtual forum to facilitate electronic communication between buyers and suppliers; and

at least one remote computer connected to the central connection component *via* a network, at least one buyer employs the at least one computer to request, retrieve, and accept online bids that include a price curve for a product from bidding suppliers, the price curve specifying a unit price in tiers based on the total volume purchased,

the virtual forum displays in real time current low bids at each tier as the bids are retrieved.

2. (Previously presented) The system of claim 1, the central connection component is a server.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Previously presented) The system of claim 1, the virtual forum displays a bidding supplier associated with each low bid.

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